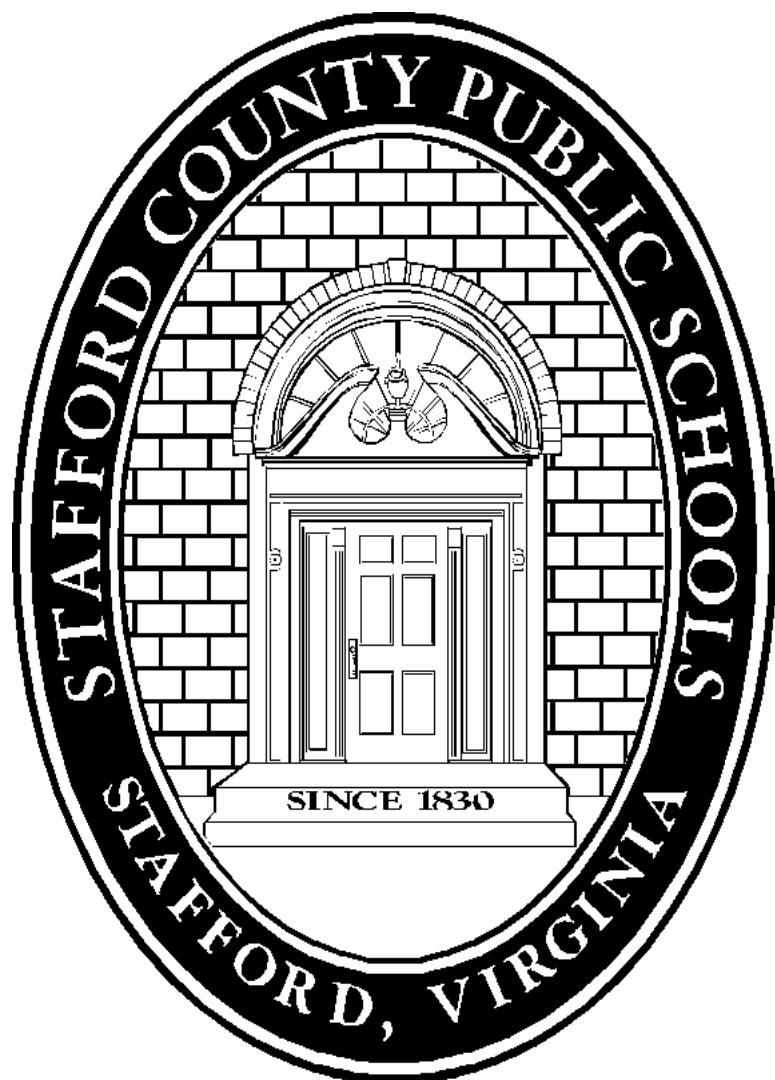


**Stafford County Public Schools  
Middle School Program of Studies  
2006-2007**



- A. G. Wright Middle School
- Edward E. Drew Middle School
- T. Benton Gayle Middle School
- H. H. Poole Middle School
- Rodney Thompson Middle School
- Stafford Middle School
- Dixon-Smith Middle School

Department of Instruction  
Office of Instructional Services  
31 Stafford Avenue  
Stafford, VA 22554

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**STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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JEAN S. MURRAY, ED.D.  
Superintendent



Dear Parents,

I am pleased to present the 2006-07 Middle School Program of Studies for Stafford County Public Schools. As you know, the middle school years are a time of growth, exploration, enrichment, and transition. Therefore, planning your child's middle school program is an important undertaking. This guide can be a helpful planning tool as you and your child work cooperatively with teachers and counselors to ensure a valuable middle school experience.

District-wide, the mission of Stafford County Public Schools is to challenge each student to reach his or her potential and to prepare each student to succeed in society. At the middle schools, the Program of Studies offers learning experiences that will meet the needs and interests of all students as they transition between elementary and high school and prepare to assume a productive role in the community.

As you review this guide, talk with your child about his or her personal interests and future education and career goals. While it may seem that high school graduation is years away, you and your child are taking the first steps toward that event now.

As always, should you require additional information, please contact your school's counseling department or the principal.

Sincerely  
Jean S. Murray, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

**NOTICE**

The Stafford County School Board is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, or disability in employment or in the provision of services, programs, or activities. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination should be directed to the Executive Director of Human Resources, Stafford County Public Schools, 31 Stafford Avenue, Stafford, VA 22554. (540) 658-6000. Reasonable accommodation upon request.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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*Superintendent*

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*Andrea L. Bengier, Ed. D.*  
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*Executive Director of Curriculum Services*

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Supervisor of Accelerated Programs	Rebecca Danello	540-658-6689
Supervisor of Elective Programs	Denise Kash	540-658-6696
Supervisor of Mathematics and Science	Vickie Inge	540-658-6679
Supervisor of Middle School Special Education	Barbara Platt	540-658-6508

# Stafford County Public Schools

## Middle School Program of Studies and Course Offerings 2006-2007

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The information in this guide should be used in planning for the three years of middle school and in selecting courses for each school year. It is important that students consider the course descriptions and background requirements, while keeping in mind their personal abilities and interests. Students should choose courses that can contribute toward the accomplishment of their education, personal, and career goals.

Students and parents are encouraged to study this publication and talk with school counselors and teachers for any additional information. The choices you make in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades greatly influence decisions for high school. Information about high school programs and graduation requirements are located in the appendix of this guide.

Courses with low enrollment or requiring special facilities or teachers with special skills may not be offered at all schools or not offered during a given school year.

### **Middle School Organization**

Students in grades six through eight are typically assigned to teams. In each middle school team a student will have two to five teachers. Each teacher in the team may be responsible for teaching one or more of the required subjects.

Students in English and Mathematics are assigned to classes based on several criteria including standardized test scores, previous grades, teacher recommendations, and parental requests. Questions about placement should be discussed with the student's present teacher and with your child's counselor at the middle school.

### **Registration**

At registration time, students are given additional information concerning courses and selecting electives for the coming school year. The course descriptions in this catalog contain information about what is taught in the course, the grade level at which the course is offered, and any background requirements for taking the course.

Students have the opportunity to choose elective courses from the Fine and Performing Arts, Career and Technical Education; and, in grade 8, students may elect to take a Foreign Language, if requirements are met. Each middle school offers a comparable elective program but the course design may vary from school to school based on facilities and available staffing. Courses with low enrollment may not be offered during a given year.

### **Types of Courses**

#### **Academic Courses**

Core academic courses include English, Mathematics, Science, and History. These classes meet for thirty-six (36) weeks. The Virginia Assessment Program specifies that students take Standards Of Learning Assessments in these courses as noted in the course descriptions.

In addition, middle school students expand their knowledge and skill in reading, writing, and mathematics through enrichment opportunities.

#### **Elective Courses**

Elective courses are classes that students may take based on their own interest and talents. Students may choose from classes such as Art, Band, Chorus, Drama, Computer Keyboarding, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Education, and Foreign Language.

These classes meet for 6 weeks, 9 weeks, 12 weeks, 18 weeks (1 semester), or 36 weeks (1 year) based on the grade level, on the school's facilities, and available staffing. Band and strings meet for a full year every year in all middle schools. Foreign Languages at grade 8 are high school credit-bearing courses and meet for a full year. Certain keyboarding courses are also high school credit-bearing.

#### **Health and Physical Education Courses**

Students participate in a health and physical education class each year. Students learn the skills necessary for performing a variety of physical activities, understand the benefits of achieving and maintaining a physically active lifestyle, as well as understand health concepts and how to achieve good health for a lifetime.

#### **High School Credit-bearing Courses**

High school credit-bearing courses are classes for which a student may earn credit that will count toward the requirements for high school graduation. Courses in Mathematics and Foreign Language are offered to students who meet the background requirements. Keyboarding is offered as an elective course. Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish, French, German, Latin are offered for 1 unit of high school credit and Computer Keyboarding is offered for ½ unit of high school credit. Please review the course descriptions for further information about these courses.

## **Student Academic Achievement and Examinations**

Middle School student report cards are issued on a nine-week basis. Progress reports will be provided on an interim basis. Letter grades will appear on the report cards. Report cards are to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher. The grading scale is as follows:

A+	98-100	Superior
A	94-97	Excellent
B+	90-93	Very Good
B	86-89	Good Progress
C+	82-85	High Average
C	78-81	Average
D+	74-77	Below Average
D	70-73	Poor
F	69 and below	Failing

Students in grade 6 do not take semester examinations. Students in grade 7 and 8 are required to take semester examinations or complete a culminating activity. Middle school examinations are no longer than one (1) class period in length and count one-tenth of the semester grade. In grades 7 and 8, the two semester grades are averaged for the student's final year grade.

Students enrolled in Advanced Algebra I, Advanced Geometry, a Foreign Language, or Computer Keyboarding are required to take semester examinations. High school credit-bearing examinations are two (2) class periods in length and count one-seventh of the semester grade. Middle school students taking high school credit-bearing courses may be exempted from year-end final examinations if they meet one of the following conditions:

- Have maintained an "A" average for the entire school year in the high school credit-bearing course; or
- Have been absent less than five days, have not been suspended from school during the school year, and have maintained at least a "C+" average in the high school credit-bearing course.

## **Virginia Standards Of Learning Testing**

The Virginia State Board of Education requires that all students enrolled in English, Mathematics, Science and History/Social Studies take Standards Of Learning tests in designated grade levels and in certain high school courses. All schools must consider individual student scores on each test when considering promotion. Stafford County Public Schools provide students with the opportunity to take several high school credit-bearing courses in middle school. Should there be a Standards of Learning test required of the course, then the student will take the SOL assessment.

Parents and students are reminded that in order to graduate from high school, a minimum of six high school-level Standards of Learning tests must be passed: two in English, one in Math, one in History/Social Studies, one in Science, and one test of the student's

choosing. Students who take high school credit-bearing courses in middle school are encouraged to do their best on these tests. Students will take the following Standards Of Learning tests:

### **Middle School Course**

Gr. 6 English/Language Arts  
Gr. 7 English/Language Arts  
Gr. 8 English/Language Arts

Gr. 6 United States History  
Gr. 7 Civics and Economics  
Gr. 8 Physical Science  
Gr. 6 Math  
Gr. 7 Math  
Gr. 8 Math  
Math 7 Extended  
Algebra I  
Geometry

\*High School Standards Of Learning tests which count toward graduation requirements.

### **VA SOL Test**

English Reading 6  
English Reading 7  
English: Writing and  
English: Reading  
Literature and Research  
US History from 1877  
Civics and Economics  
Science 8  
Mathematics 6  
Mathematics 7  
Mathematics 8  
Mathematics 8  
\*Algebra I  
\*Geometry

## **Deleting Courses from the Academic Transcript**

Middle school students have the opportunity to pursue credit-bearing courses prior to high school. Stafford County Public Schools makes available selected Mathematics, Foreign Language, and Business courses. Occasionally, students may not demonstrate a desired degree of success in advanced courses taken prior to high school. Parents may request, in writing, no more than thirty (30) days following the posting of final year-end grades, that a credit-bearing course taken before entering high school be removed from their child's academic high school transcript.

Students, for whom a credit-bearing course is deleted, must repeat the course in its entirety if the course is a requirement for graduation. If an end-of-course Standards Of Learning test is applicable, the student will not be required to retake the end-of-course test if a passing score was achieved. Please consult your child's counselor for additional information.

## **Summer Programs**

Students who have not met standards for promotion to the next grade or have not passed a state assessment may be required to enroll in summer remediation programs for English/Language Arts, Mathematics, History or Science. In addition, the Middle School Summer Program provides an opportunity for middle school students, to improve their knowledge and skills in English/Language Arts, Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

The Summer Bridge Programs in Mathematics provide an opportunity for students to accelerate their study of middle school Mathematics in order to take Algebra I in grade 8. Students in grade 6 and grade 7 must be recommended by their teacher and by their parents for the program.

## Middle School Three Year Planning

Below is an overview of courses and learning opportunities for students in grades 6, 7 and 8. Teachers will work with students and parents to make course assignments in English, Mathematics, Science, History and to provide enrichment opportunities based on a student's learning needs, academic achievement, and interests.

Each year students will work with their parents to choose elective courses. Each middle school has designed an elective program based on available staffing, facilities, and student enrollment. Please make sure that your choices are guided by educational interests and by the opportunities offered in your school. At registration time, each school will provide additional information to students regarding how many weeks each elective class meets in that building. Band, Strings, and Foreign Language meet for a full year in every school.

<u>Grade 6</u>	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
English/Language Arts	English/Language Arts	*English Language Arts
Science	Life Science	*Physical Science
*United States History: 1877 to the present	*Civics and Economics	World Geography
Math 6, or Math 6 Extended, or *Math 7 Extended**	Math 7, *Math 7 Extended**, or *Advanced Algebra I**	*Math 8**, or *Advanced Algebra I**, or *Advanced Geometry**
Health and P.E.	Health and P.E.	Health and P.E.
Elective(s)	Elective(s)	Elective(s) One of a students' electives may be a foreign language Grade 8 only, if requirements are met)

\* SOL test administered in this course.

\*\* Students placed in any Advanced Math program will be working with their counselors to create a 5 or 6 year plan to include high school initial planning.

### Develop Your Own Three-Year Plan

The blank sample below is for you and your parents to prepare a customized middle school three-year plan to meet your educational and career objectives in preparation for high school. On pages 16-19, you will find the high school graduation requirements and sample four-year plans are provided so that you will understand how the middle school courses help prepare you for the high school courses you will take. In addition, the chart on page 20 shows the possible sequences of courses for Mathematics in grades 6 through 12.

Class	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
English			
Science			
Social Studies			
Mathematics			
Health & PE			
	Exploratory Cycle	Enrichment:	Academic Elective or Enrichment:
	Elective or Enrichment:	Elective(s):	Elective(s):

## DIRECTORY OF COURSE OFFERINGS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Special Notes

All courses will be offered in each middle school, except as noted in the course descriptions. In some courses students must meet the necessary background requirements in order to enroll. Requirements can be found in the course description.

Information in the Middle School Program of Studies guide reflects the Standards of Accreditation adopted by the Virginia Board of Education in July 2000. Actions by the General Assembly or the State Board of Education may necessitate changes in Stafford County School Board policies and regulations.

### English

#### **Grade 6 English/Language Arts 1109**

The curriculum goals for this class correlate with the English Standards Of Learning Curriculum framework. The English/Language Arts program provides instruction in all aspects of communication, including composition, formal and informal speaking, and listening skills. Composition skills will be taught through the use of the writing process, to include narratives, descriptions, and explanations. Planning, revising, and editing will be practiced. Grammar and correct English usage will also be emphasized. Reading instruction will develop strategies that will help the students further become critical, purposeful, and proficient readers, expanding students' vocabulary and usage. Authentic literature and information texts will be utilized.

#### **Grade 7 English/Language Arts 1110**

The curriculum goals for this class correlate with the English Standards Of Learning Curriculum framework. The English program provides instruction in all aspects of communication, including composition, formal and informal speaking, and listening skills. Composition skills will be taught through the use of the writing process: including narrative, expository, persuasive, and technical writing. The student will use the word processor to plan, revise, edit and publish original works. Grammar and correct English usage will also be emphasized. Use of the thesaurus and graphic organizers and refinement of reference skills will be included.

Instruction will be provided in effective literary analysis to help the student to become a critical, purposeful, and proficient reader. Students will analyze plot structure, author's tone, and purpose. The Reading/Language Arts program will focus on vocabulary study and correct usage. Authentic literature, including poetry and information texts, will be read, analyzed, and discussed.

#### **Grade 8 English/Language Arts 1120**

The English/Language Arts program provides instruction in all aspects of communication, including formal and informal speaking presentations and interviews. Developing elaboration, word choice, and consistent application of verb tense and usage will refine composition skills. The writing process will be utilized for producing narrative, expository, persuasive and technical writing.

Literary elements, including character plot, theme, point of view and tone will be analyzed. A variety of genres, including poetry, short stories, essays, speeches and novels will be utilized. Reading skills will emphasize comprehension and critical thinking. Students will take the eighth grade English Standards Of Learning test.

### History

#### **Grade 6 United States History: 1877 to the Present 2354**

The sixth grade objective enables students to explore the historical development of people, places, and patterns of life from 1877 to the present day. Through this study the students will learn fundamental concepts in civics, economics, and geography in the context of U.S. History. Students will take the United States History: 1877 to the Present Standards Of Learning test.

#### **Grade 7 Civics and Economics 2357**

The Civics and Economics course will focus on the structure and functions of government institutions at the national, state and local levels. Through this course the student will foster patriotism, gain a respect for the law, and encourage a sense of civic duty. The role of the citizen in the American political and economic systems will be explored. Students will take the Civics and Economics Standards Of Learning test.

#### **Grade 8 World Geography 2359**

The focus of this course is the study of the world's peoples, places, and environments, with an emphasis on world regions. The knowledge, skills, and perspectives of the course are centered on the world's population and cultural characteristics, landforms and climates, economic development, and migration and settlement patterns. Particular emphasis is placed on students' understanding and applying geographic concepts and skills to their daily lives.



# Mathematics

Mathematics classes at the middle school level provide opportunities for students to use problem solving, mathematical communication, mathematical reasoning, mathematical and real world connections, and multiple representations to extend their skills and understanding in Mathematics. Students build on the concrete reasoning experiences developed in elementary school while developing the deeper mathematical understandings required for success in more complex learning experiences. Each year students will study Mathematics topics that include number and number sense, computation and estimation, measurement, Geometry, and patterns, functions, and Algebra while using a variety of technology tools. Students who have successfully completed the middle grades Mathematics program should be prepared for high school Mathematics course work. Students will take the appropriate Standards Of Learning Mathematics test each year.

## **Grade 6 Mathematics** **3110**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

This course will cover the Standards of Learning to prepare students for successful daily living and further study in algebra and geometry. Emphasis is placed on continuing to develop and to extend problem solving abilities and number sense to maintain a solid foundation in Mathematics. Students will learn appropriate and correct uses of technology in Mathematics. Computation skills with fractions, decimals and percents will be further developed to insure student success in solving problems including consumer math problems. Lessons will include estimating, interpreting and organizing data, predicting, solving linear equations, and using Mathematics in everyday situations. Other units to be studied are geometry, measurement and ratios. Students will be introduced to proportions, percents and integers. Students who successfully complete this class will enroll in Grade 7 Mathematics.

## **Math 6 Extended** **3110A**

Grade Level 6

Background: Pass Grade 5 Math SOL and Teacher Recommendation

This course will cover all of the Grade 6 Mathematics Standards Of Learning and part of the Grade 7 Standards Of Learning to prepare students for successful daily living and further study in algebra and Geometry. The course is designed for students who have a solid foundation in computation with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals, and who can learn material at an accelerated pace. Students will start with an extensive use of problem solving skills including computation with fractions, decimals and percents. Students will solve real world problems including consumer problems, ratios and proportions. Other topics to be covered are (plane and

solid) Geometry, measurement, statistics and probability, and one-step equations. Students who pass this class with a C or better may enroll in Math 7 Extended.

## **Grade 7 Mathematics** **3111**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

This course will cover the Standards Of Learning to prepare students for successful daily living and further study in algebra and geometry. Students will use fractions, decimals, percents and proportional reasoning to solve a variety of problems. Students will use the properties of real numbers to solve linear equations and inequalities. Units of study will include data analysis techniques to make inferences and predictions. The principles of plane and solid geometry will be used in solving problems. Students who successfully complete this class will enroll in Grade 8 Mathematics.

## **Math 7 Extended** **3111A**

Grade Level 6 or 7

Background: Pass Math 6 Extended

Rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders must take placement test.

This course will cover part of the Grade 7 Mathematics Standards Of Learning and all of the Grade 8 Mathematics Standards Of Learning to prepare students for successful daily living and further study in Algebra and Geometry. This course is designed so that students continue to move at an accelerated pace. Topics to be emphasized are solving multi-step equations, graphing and transformations in the coordinate plane, and using the Pythagorean Theorem to solve problems. Students will use the characteristics and measure of geometric figures to develop inductive and deductive reasoning skills. Students enrolled in this course will take the Grade 8 Math Virginia Standards Of Learning test. Students who successfully complete this course and pass the Grade 8 Mathematics Standards Of Learning test will enroll in Advanced Algebra I as eighth-graders.

## **Grade 8 Mathematics** **3112**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

This course will cover the Standards Of Learning to prepare students for successful daily living and further study in Algebra and Geometry. The content extends concepts and skills learned in previous grades such as solving consumer-related problems, using numerical patterns in understanding relationships, and using probability and statistics to make predictions and inferences. Real numbers and their properties will be used to solve and justify the solutions in multi-step equations. The study of Geometry will be expanded to include graphing and transformations in the coordinate plane, using the Pythagorean Theorem and the characteristics and measure of geometric figures to solve problems. Students enrolled in this class will take the Grade 8 Standards Of Learning tests. Students will enroll in Algebra I or Algebra I Part I as ninth graders.

**Advanced Algebra I** **3130**  
Grade 7 and 8 High School Credit 1  
Background: Successful completion of Math 7 Extended and a passing score on the Grade 8 SOL test.

This course is the first Mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit. Advanced Algebra I includes the use of technology in Algebra, linear and quadratic equations and functions, using Algebra to analyze data, and to solve problems. Students enrolled in this course will take the Standards Of Learning Algebra I test. Students who successfully complete this course will take Advanced Geometry next year.

**Advanced Geometry** **3143**  
Grade 8 High School Credit 1  
Background: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra I and Teacher Recommendation

Advanced Geometry is a course for which students may earn high school credit. Advanced Geometry is a course whose basic elements are points, lines, and planes. Plane, solid, and coordinate Geometry are studied. This course is designed to develop effective methods of thinking through deductive reasoning, application of theorems in proofs and in problem solving. Students who successfully complete this course will take Advanced Algebra II next year.

## Science

Science classes at the middle school level provide students with basic content knowledge in the earth, space, biological and physical sciences. The Virginia Science Standards Of Learning test given in Grade 8 covers content from all three grades. Becoming familiar with the tools and methods of Science in understanding the natural world is an important component of the coursework at each grade level. Both Science content and methodology are designed to help students be successful in their high school Science courses.

**Grade 6 Science** **4105**

The sixth grade Science curriculum focuses on student growth in understanding the nature of science especially the premise that scientific explanations are based on logical thinking. Methods are studied for testing the validity of predictions and conclusions. Major areas of study include: basic sources of energy, their origins, transformations, and uses; the role of the sun's energy on Earth systems; the unique properties of water and its role in the environment; atomic structure and basic Chemistry concepts; the organization of the solar system and the relationships among the bodies that comprise it. Environmental studies focus on renewable and nonrenewable resources, and the ecology of watershed systems emphasizing their value as natural resources.

**Grade 7 Life Science** **4115**

Life Science promotes an understanding of the changes, cycles, patterns, and relationships in the living world. The nature of science is illustrated by the idea that explanations of nature are developed and tested using observations, experimentations, models, evidence, and systematic processes. Areas of study include: cell structure, function, and organization; physical and chemical processes essential to life, especially photosynthesis; DNA and transmission of genetic information. In addition, a large number of ecological concepts are studied including living and nonliving components of an ecosystem, chemical cycles and energy flow and organization and interactions within populations, communities, and ecosystems.

**Grade 8 Physical Science** **4125**

Physical Science stresses an in-depth understanding of the nature and structure of matter and the characteristics of energy. Research methods and skills are emphasized as students focus on understanding the nature and process of science. Students use appropriate tools for gathering data in classroom experimentations and share their work in written reports and other presentations. Major areas of study include: basic properties of matter and atomic structure; understanding and using the periodic table; physical and chemical changes; types, transfers, and transformations of energy; principles of work, force and motion. The nature of light, sound, electricity, and magnetism are studied and investigated.

## Academic Enrichment Opportunities

Each middle school will offer academic enrichment opportunities for students. A school may offer enrichment opportunities as separate classes or they may offer enrichment as part of a class by extending the time a class meets. The team teachers, counselors, and staff in each school will work with students and make assignments to academic enrichment classes based on course offerings, student achievement, student interest, and teacher recommendations.

Students at the eighth-grade level may elect to take one of the foreign languages offered in the school as the grade 8 academic enrichment. Foreign Language is a high school credit-bearing class and students who elect to take a foreign language will be enrolled in this class for the full year and will follow Stafford County guidelines for middle school students enrolled in high school credit-bearing courses.

**Algebra Readiness 3110R, 3111R, 3112R**

Grades 6, 7, 8

Background: Teacher Recommendation

The purpose of this class is to provide mathematics intervention services to students who are at-risk of failing the Algebra I end-of-course test. The additional instructional time in mathematics is provided for the students participating in the program per Algebra Readiness coach using research-based instructional strategies that impact student learning. The intervention is focused on individual student needs as identified by a state provided diagnostic test. Areas of study include: number sense, computation, estimation, measurement, Geometry, probability, statistics, patterns, and functions and Algebra.

**Mathematics Enrichment 3110E, 3111E, 3112E**

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Background: Teacher Recommendation

This course provides students the opportunity to engage in problem solving activities in mathematics. Students will participate in a variety of problem solving situations and develop multiple strategies for problem solving while enriching the mathematics concepts being taught in the classroom. In addition, students will have opportunities to develop a stronger understanding of mathematics concepts and to become more proficient in mathematics.

**Grade 6 Reading Enrichment 1106**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

The curriculum guidelines for this class correlate with the state reading strand of the English Standards Of Learning curriculum framework. Students will be exposed to a variety of literary genres: to include fiction, informational text and poetry. The students will identify and respond to the author's purpose, style, and character and plot development. Instruction will be provided in effective reading strategies that help the student become critical, purposeful and proficient readers. Authentic literature and information texts will be implemented. Students will be required to participate in independent reading outside of classroom time.

**Grade 7 Reading Enrichment 1107**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

The curriculum guidelines for this class correlate with the state reading strand of the English Standards Of Learning curriculum framework. Reading instruction will include strategies for reading in the content areas, reading for pleasure and reading for enrichment. Students will be introduced to classical and modern novels, non-fiction selections, poetry and short stories. In addition, students will learn to use graphic organizers and study vocabulary to increase knowledge of presented materials. Word study will include the study of Greek and Latin root words. Fluency will be addressed through Readers' Theatre and timed readings. Independent reading outside of classroom time will be required.

**Grade 8 Reading Enrichment 1120E**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

The curriculum guidelines for this class correlate with the state reading strand of the English Standards of Learning curriculum framework. The reading class seeks to enhance students' reading ability through extensive reading of informational texts as well as fictional selections. Adolescent literature will be read, discussed and analyzed, with an emphasis on vocabulary development. Instruction will focus on development of reading strategies for increased comprehension skills in all subject areas. Students will increase and expand vocabulary usage as they explore word origins. Evaluative abilities will be developed for advertisements, editorials, stories and other writings. Fluency will be addressed through Readers' Theatre and timed readings. Independent reading outside of classroom time will be required of this course.

## Health and Physical Education

**Grade 6 Physical Education 7110**

Students combine fundamental skills into more complex movement forms in modified games, dance/rhythms, and recreational activities. Activities include cooperative and competitive small-group games that are appropriate for developing skills and tactical understanding. Students practice to improve skill performance and fitness. Students assess their health-related fitness status and set reasonable and appropriate goals for development, maintenance and improvement of their overall fitness. Activities emphasize self-improvement, participation, cooperation, respect for others and sportsmanship. Students solve problems and make responsible decisions as they work together. Students are encouraged to exhibit a physically active lifestyle at school and outside the school environment. Health education includes family life education.

**Grade 7 Physical Education 7120**

Students continue to develop competence in modified versions of games/sports, dance/rhythms, and recreational activities. Recreational pursuits are emphasized, broadening lifetime physical activity options. Students relate the importance of physical activity to health. They create plans for improving personal fitness. Students continue to develop responsible, personal and social behaviors by demonstrating decision-making skills, conflict resolutions skills, appropriate etiquette, and respect for others. Students achieve and maintain personal fitness standards and set reasonable and appropriate goals for improvement or maintenance of health-related fitness. Health education covers the topics of wellness and healthy living, violence prevention, safety and injury preventions, mental and emotional health, disease of the body, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and family life education.

## Grade 8 Physical Education

**7200**

Students demonstrate competence in skillful movement in modified and more complex dynamic game/sport situations and in a variety of dance/rhythm activities and recreational activities. Students demonstrate mature responsibility as they show respect for others, make reasoned and appropriate choices, resist negative peer pressure, and exhibit fair play. Students are able to set goals, track progress, and participate in physical activities to improve health-related fitness. They develop a repertoire of abilities across a variety of game/sport and recreational pursuits and begin to develop competence in specialized versions of lifetime game/sport activities. Health education covers the topics of wellness and healthy living, violence prevention, safety and injury prevention, mental and emotional health, body systems, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and family life education.

## Elective Courses

Students and their parents should read the elective course descriptions carefully. The course description indicates the grade level at which the course may be taken, the topics that will be studied in the course, and any background that is needed for the course. Based on facilities and available staffing some courses may not be offered at every school. Additional information will be provided to students when they register regarding how many weeks each elective meets in each school.

## Foreign Language

Grade Level: 8 High School Credit 1  
Background: B or better in English/Language Arts  
Teacher Recommendation and  
On-Grade Reading Level

In a beginning Foreign Language course, students gain an understanding of the components of a foreign language and of the study skills necessary to learn a Foreign Language. In modern Foreign Language courses, as students begin to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, they engage in active practice in real-life situations and in a variety of cultural contexts. Latin students are introduced to a study of Roman life, History, Mythology and English derivations. Students who wish to enroll in Foreign Language in the eighth grade should possess strong language arts and reading skills.

A recommendation from the student's language arts teacher is required. Parents and students should be aware that the pace of the class demands that students attend school regularly and have excellent organizational and study skills. Successful completion of this course will earn a student one high school credit toward graduation.

If the level I Foreign Language course is not available on the middle school campus, students may be able to take the course at the designated high school site. In such cases, the student will ride the earlier high school bus in the morning and report directly to the high school for a first period Foreign Language class. Following the class, a shuttle bus will transport students back to their home schools to complete the school day.

Foreign Languages count as elective credit for the Standard Diploma. For the Advanced Studies Diploma a student must take three years of one language or two years each of two different languages (2+2 option). Students who elect to take a Foreign Language in grade 8 will use this class as one of their electives.

### French I

**5110**

Students gain an understanding of the components of a foreign language and of the study skills necessary to learn a Foreign Language. As students begin to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, they engage in active practice in real-life situations and in a variety of cultural contexts.

### German I

**5210**

Students gain an understanding of the components of a Foreign Language and of the study skills necessary to learn a Foreign Language. As students begin to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, they engage in active practice in real-life situations and in a variety of cultural contexts.

### Latin I

**5310**

Students are introduced to the basic vocabulary and grammar system of the language. Roman life, history, mythology, and English derivations are integral parts of the course.

### Spanish I

**5510**

Students gain an understanding of the components of a Foreign Language and of the study skills necessary to learn a foreign language. As students begin to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, they engage in active practice in real-life situations and in a variety of cultural contexts.

## Fine Arts

### Grade 6 Art

**9103**

Background: None  
Offered at: All Middle Schools

Grade 6 Art essentials include a framework that aids the student in learning the characteristics of visual arts by using a wide range of subject matter, symbols, meaningful images and visual expressions. As the student gains knowledge and skills, he/she will gain the ability to apply knowledge and skills in the visual arts to his/her widening personal world.

In classroom discussions, the student will continue to use an expanding art vocabulary while

describing the student's work and the work of others. Artwork should reflect increase manual and creative skills in addition to expanded knowledge of the use and application of the elements of design. The student should be able to classify two-dimensional and three-dimensional images and construct a three-dimensional form. An introduction of color theory should give the student an ability to identify and construct a simple color wheel.

#### **Art Grade 7 9105**

Background: Art 6 or Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Grade 7 Art essentials include the development of visual perception, recording from direct observation, memory and the imagination. The student should prepare and develop an idea or theme by collecting and organizing visual resources.

In classroom discussions, the student will continue to use expanding Art vocabulary while describing the student's work and the work of others. Artwork should reflect increase manual and creative skills in addition to expanded knowledge of the use of texture, pattern, shape, line and color. The student should be able to apply the basic rules of perspective, proportion, value, and color theory. The student should now be able to manipulate distance, size, and placement to create three-dimensional effects on a two-dimensional plane.

#### **Art Grade 8 9106**

Background: Art 7 or Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Grade 8 Art essentials include the ability to select and control the use of materials, tools and techniques and an understanding of the visual language of art and apply these in their own work to develop, express, and modify their ideas, intentions and feeling. Curriculum will be modified to fit middle school schedule.

Design Concepts: In classroom discussions, the student will continue to use an expanding Art vocabulary while describing the student's work and the work of others. Artwork should reflect increased manual and creative skills in addition to expanded knowledge of the use and application of the elements of design. The student should be able to use simple perspective systems for symbolizing what they are rendering. The student should be able to manipulate proportion, value and color to create realistic/or expressive images.

#### **Graphic Art Grade 7 9105G**

Background: None

Offered at: TMS

Computer graphics will be used to develop knowledge of design. The student will create banners, project covers, calendars, and iron-on t-shirts. The digital camera will be introduced and used in the design process. A variety of creative software will be used.

#### **Graphic Art Grade 8**

**9106G**

Background: None

Offered at: DMS

Computer graphics will be used to develop knowledge of design. The student will create banners, project covers, calendars, and iron-on t-shirts. The digital camera will be introduced and used in the design process. A variety of creative software will be used.

### **Performing Arts**

#### **Band Grade 6**

**9230**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course. In sixth-grade Band, the student is taught proper playing technique on an instrument well-suited to his or her natural abilities. The student learns to play both individually and in an ensemble setting, as well as maintenance of the instrument. The teacher follows the count adopted curriculum, which is based on the Virginia Standards Of Learning. Evaluation of progress will be based on individual playing tests, written work, and daily class participation. Daily at-home practice is necessary to master playing technique. (SOL IB.22;2) The student will attend scheduled performances, which are extensions of classroom material. (SOL IB.22;3)

#### **Band Grade 7**

**9231**

Background: Grade 6 Band or Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course. In seventh-grade Band, the student continues to learn proper playing technique and develop ensemble skills. The teacher follows the county adopted curriculum, which is based upon the Virginia Standards Of Learning. Evaluation of progress will be based on individual playing tests, written work, and daily class participation. Daily at-home practice is necessary to continue mastering playing technique. (SOL II.22;2) The student will attend scheduled performances, which are extensions of classroom material. (SOL II.22;3)

#### **Band Grade 8**

**9232**

Background: Seventh Grade Band or Band Director Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course. In eighth-grade Band, the student refines playing skills and develops higher-level listening skills. Students are highly encouraged to attend All-County Band Auditions, All-District Band Auditions, and Solo & Ensemble Festival. The teacher follows the county adopted curriculum, which is based upon the Virginia Standards Of Learning. Evaluation or progress will be based on individual playing tests, written work, and daily class participation. Daily at-home practice is necessary to continue mastering playing technique. (SOL II.22;2) The student will attend

scheduled performances, which are extensions of classroom materials. (SOL II.22;3)

### **Chorus Grade 6 9269**

Background: None

Offered at: All middle schools

Sixth-grade chorus is a study of musical compositions, structures, and techniques of the voice, processes of vocal production and music history. The course examines vocal technique, music theory, ear training, sight-singing, ensemble performance, music literature, analysis, and technology. Performance and evaluation are an integral part of the course.

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Choral Curriculum checklist, to increase an understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum, and foster positive attitudes for further choral study.

### **Chorus Grade 7 9270**

Background: Chorus Grade 6 or Teacher Recomm.

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Seventh-grade chorus is a study of musical compositions, structure, and techniques of the voice, processes of vocal production, and music history. The course examines vocal techniques, music theory, ear training, sight-singing, ensemble skills performance, music literature, musical analysis, interdisciplinary activities, technology, and career opportunities. Performance and evaluation are an integral part of the course.

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Choral Curriculum check-list, to expand the understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum; and foster positive attitudes for further choral study.

### **Chorus Grade 8 9213**

Background: Chorus Grade 7 or Teacher Recomm.

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Eighth-grade chorus is a study of musical compositions, structure and technique of the voice, processes of vocal production, and music history. The course examines vocal techniques, music theory, ear training, sight-singing, ensemble skills/performance, music literature, musical analysis, interdisciplinary activities, technology, and career opportunities.

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Choral Curriculum checklist, to increase an understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum, foster positive attitudes for further choral study in high schools and prepare the student for a positive high school chorus experience.

### **Piano Keyboarding 9255**

Background: None

Offered at SMS in Grade 7 or 8.

This semester class is designed for beginners who will learn basic piano keyboarding skills. If you are presently taking piano or have had over a year of piano lessons, this class is **not** for you. The reading and writing of music will be taught along with keyboarding skills. The school will provide the keyboard and the piano book. Students may bring headphones from home to use with the keyboards if they wish.

### **Strings Grade 6 9235**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course. In sixth-grade strings, a student studies an instrument of his/her choice (violin, viola, cello, bass) from the violin family. Students learn correct technique on their chosen string instrument and learn to perform in an ensemble through sequential music exercises, folk songs, and age appropriate repertoire. Since performances are an integral and vital extension of this course, participations in performances is strongly encouraged.

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Strings Curriculum checklist, to increase an understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum, and foster positive attitudes for further string study.

### **Strings Grade 7 9236**

Background: Strings 6 or Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course. Seventh-grade strings is a continuation of sixth-grade strings. Students continue the mastery of string technique and ensemble performance through the study of advanced music exercises, folk songs, and age appropriate repertoire. Performance opportunities will be more abundant. Since performances are an integral and vital extension of this course, participation in performances is strongly encouraged.

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Strings Curriculum checklist, to increase an understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum, and foster positive attitudes for further string study.

### **Strings Grade 8 9240**

Background: Strings 7 or Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This is a full year course and is a continuation of the seventh-grade program of study. Students continue the mastery of string technique and ensemble performance through advanced technical etudes, scales and arpeggios, and age appropriate repertoire. Preparation of performances will be more intensive. Since performances are an integral and vital extension of

this course, participation in performances is strongly encouraged.

### **Drama Grade 6**

**0066**

Background: None

Offered at: AGWMS, DMS, GMS, HHPMS, RTMS

This course strives to develop creative potential in students by providing opportunities for students to produce and participate in dramatic and theatrical experiences. In activities that require students to work cooperatively, students begin to develop their internal and external personal resources and form aesthetic judgments. They are exposed to dramatists and their works, in addition to other key theatrical players and participants. They begin to integrate drama with other academic disciplines.

### **Drama Grade 7**

**1390**

Background: Drama Grade 6 or Teacher

Recommendation

Offered at: AGWMS, DMS, GMS, HHPMS, RTMS

This elective course builds on the knowledge and skills of Drama 6. Using voice, language, movement, imagination, and emotional perception, students develop not only characters for the theater but their own self-discipline and self-concept. They learn drama through artistic collaboration in such activities as improvisation, play writing, directing, technical production, and theater management. In addition, they learn about theater in the past and theater today with emphasis on the roles and careers available.

### **Drama Grade 8**

**1395**

Background: Drama Grade 7 or Teacher

Recommendation

Offered at: AGWMS, DMS, GMS, HHPMS, RTMS

This elective course builds on the knowledge and skills of Drama 7. Using voice, language, movement, imagination, and emotional perception, students develop not only characters for the theater but their own self-discipline and self-concept. They learn drama through artistic collaboration in such activities as improvisation, play writing, directing, technical production, and theater management. In addition, they learn about theater in the past and theater today with emphasis on the roles and careers available.

## **Career and Technical Education**

### **Computer Exploration**

#### **Computer Keyboarding**

**6151**

.5 Credit

Grade Level 8 Offered at: All Middle Schools

Keyboarding is a one-semester high school credit Business class. This course is designed for secondary school students to develop and enhance touch

skills for entering alphabetic, numeric and symbol information on a keyboard. Students learn to produce and format personal and professional documents.

### **Computer Studies Grade 6**

**0121**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This course is designed to teach students the appropriate terminology and vocabulary for computer use. The course includes an introduction to keyboarding techniques. It will also include basic formatting techniques such as “*cut, copy, paste and save*”. Other areas of study may cover various applications and techniques depending on the course time frame per school.

### **Computer Solutions Grade 7**

**0122**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This class offers keyboarding skills, the history of computers, business applications, and computer terminology. The course is designed to expand the students’ previous knowledge of computers. The course is hands-on with one-to-one ratio of students to computers. Some of the units that may be taught include keyboarding, word processing, desktop publishing, computer drawing, multi-media presentations, computer research skills, computer vocabulary, other applications and the Internet.

## **Technology Education**

### **Introduction to Technology Grade 6**

**8481**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Students first study the basic elements of all technology, including processes, energy, information, and people. They explore up to four systems of technology, including construction, transportation, communication, and production/manufacturing. Finally, they relate the impact of technology on society, environment, and culture to future consequences and decisions.

### **Inventions and Innovations Grade 7**

**8485, 8464**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Students make models of significant inventions that have advanced society. After studying these developments, they explore contemporary technological problems facing them, their community, or the world and apply systematic procedures to invent new products or innovations as solutions.

**Technological Systems Grade 8      8486, 8463, 8462**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

Students combine resources and techniques into systems, realizing technology as a system. By simulating systems, assessing their impacts, and relating this experience to the two previous levels, students gain an insight into how to approach the problems and opportunities of a technological world in a broad sense. They also explore occupational areas and educational programs for technology-oriented careers.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

**Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 6      8204**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

As part of the Family and Consumer Sciences program, students in this exploratory course will learn to make thoughtful decisions about using money, selecting healthy foods, and being responsible for their use of time, equipment, and resources. Core subject concepts will be incorporated in course topics. Food preparation using a variety of food products is an integral part of this course.

**Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 7      8206**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

As part of the Family and Consumer Sciences program, students will explore a range of life skills including wellness, nutrition, and personal and financial management of resources. Project work will allow students to develop basic workplace ethics and practices. Core subject concepts will be incorporated in course topics. Food preparation using a variety of food products is an integral part of this course.

**Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 8      8208**

Background: None

Offered at: All Middle Schools

This Family and Consumer Sciences course provides a foundation for management of family, work, and community roles. Students use problem solving skills as they consider lifestyle decisions and career options and how their individual choices can have family, community and global impact. Course content and academic concepts will be connected to life applications at work and at home through a variety of projects. Food preparation using a variety of food products is an integral part of this course. This course is a launching point for high school level Family and Consumer Sciences offerings.

## Other Courses

**Grade 6 Health and Wellness****7112**

Background: None

Offered at: May not be offered at all schools.

Health education covers the topics of healthy living and wellness, violence, prevention, human growth and development, alcohol, tobacco and drugs, disease identification and prevention, safety and injury prevention, mental and emotional health. A wellness model is used as the framework for instruction.

**Video Production Grade 7**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: HHPMS

**Video Production Grade 8****9801V**

Background: Teacher Recommendation

Offered at: GMS, HHPMS, TMS

This class is an introduction to video production and will place an emphasis on the creative application of technology through hands-on projects such as video announcements and other class productions. Students should possess an interest in drama and technology, as they will be expected to perform in front of the camera, as well as, rotate through a variety of roles behind the scenes. Students will also study terms, screen films, and learn about important events in film/TV history.

## Extracurricular Offerings

There are a variety of extracurricular activities offered at all the middle schools in Stafford County. Among the offerings are: intramural athletics, student clubs, student organizations, mentoring, tutoring, fine arts, and co-curricular programs. These offerings will vary by school based on available staffing and student interest. Contact your school for a complete list of activities that are being offered.

<u>School</u>	<u>Mascot</u>
A. G. Wright MS	Tigers
Edward E. Drew, Jr. MS	Rams
T. Benton Gayle MS	Panthers
H. H. Poole MS	Mustangs
Rodney Thompson MS	Jaguars
Stafford MS	Spartans
Dixon-Smith MS	



## **Appendix**

### **PLANNING FOR HIGH SCHOOL – DEVELOPING A FOUR-YEAR PLAN**

An important component of a student's middle school years is the development of a four-year plan for high school. The four-year plan for high school may actually begin in middle school for many Stafford County middle school students. Students who choose to take a foreign language or advanced mathematics to earn high school credit while enrolled in middle school should plan their high school program of studies early. As students and parents select courses each should keep the following questions in mind:

- Are the mathematics courses chosen going to prepare the student for college or the world of work?
- Is the student planning to pursue two languages (with two years of study each) or one language taken over three to five years?
- Is the student planning to pursue a career in a technical field immediately after high school or after college?
- Is the student interested in one or more elective programs that may lead to a career choice?
- Is the student planning to pursue an advanced or standard diploma?

Parents are encouraged to work with their children's teachers and counselors to identify those courses which students will need in order to pursue higher education and work beyond high school. Four-year plans are intended to be reviewed yearly, as part of the student's scheduling process for the coming school year. Expect that student interests will change over their high school years. As a student approaches the end of his/her high school career, it becomes very difficult to change direction in career or college plans. Please plan appropriately and wisely.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students must fulfill certain state-established graduation requirements. The Commonwealth of Virginia offers four diplomas: (1) a 22-credit diploma (Standard); (2) a 24-credit diploma (Advanced Studies); (3) a 20-credit diploma (Modified Standard); and (4) a Special Diploma.

- The Advanced Studies Diploma differs from the Standard Diploma by specifically listing certain math, science, and social studies courses a student must take as well as requiring a foreign language. Students must meet the requirements for either a 22-credit Standard Diploma to earn a verified credit or a 24-credit Advanced Studies Diploma to earn standard credits and take the applicable Standards Of Learning tests.
- The Modified Standard Diploma is established for certain students who have a disability and who are not able to meet the credit requirements for a standard diploma. Student eligibility for this diploma is determined by the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team, the student, and parent/guardian.
- The Special Diploma is for students whose disabilities require a unique program of study. All students are strongly encouraged to complete graduation requirements following the recommended sequence of courses.

#### **What is a "standard unit of credit" and a "verified unit of credit"?**

A standard unit of credit is awarded for a course in which the student successfully completes 140 clock hours of instruction and the objectives of the course. A verified unit of credit is awarded for a course in which the student earns a standard unit of credit and achieves a passing score on a corresponding end-of-course SOL test or a substitute assessment approved by the Board of Education.

Graduation requirements for each diploma are listed in the following tables:

### 22-CREDIT STANDARD DIPLOMA

<b><u>Course Areas</u></b>	<b><u>Standard Credits Earned</u></b>	<b><u>Verified Units of Credit</u></b>
English	4	2
Mathematics*	3	1
Algebra I Part I, Algebra I Part II, and Geometry, or Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II		
Lab Science	3	1
Earth Science, Biology, and one additional Science Course		
History	3	1
World History to 1500 A.D./World Geography or World History after 1500A.D./World Geography, Virginia/United States History, and Virginia/United States Government		
Health and Physical Education	2	
Electives ▲+	6	
Fine or Practical Arts	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>22 Credits</b>	<b><u>1~</u> 6 Credits</b>

- \* Students who complete Algebra I Part I and Part II will earn two math credits.
- ▲ Students are required to select a sequence of elective classes leading to completion of a Career and Technical Education program.
- + Students must complete a minimum of two sequential electives.
- ~ Student selected tests for verified credit
- NOTE:** In SOL courses, students are required to take a SOL test.

### Sample Standard Diploma Four-Year Plan

<b>Class</b>	<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>
1	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
2	World History to 1500 AD/World Geog	Required Elective	VA/US History	VA/US Gov't
3	Earth Science	Biology	Chemistry	Student Choice
4	Algebra I Part I	Algebra I Part II	Geometry	Student Choice
5	Health and PE 9	Health and PE 10	Required Elective*	Required Elective*
6	Fine/Practical Arts	Required Elective	Required Elective	Required Elective
7	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice
8	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)

\*Students are required to complete a sequence of elective courses which leads to completing a career and technical program or continued education.

**24-CREDIT  
ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA**

<u>Course Areas</u>	<u>Standard Credits Earned</u>	<u>Verified Units of Credit</u>
English	4	2
Math	4	2
Algebra I Part I and Part II, Geometry, and Algebra II, or Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one course above Algebra II		
Science		
Four (4) courses from among three of these Lab Science areas: Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics.	4	2
History	4	2
World History to 1500 A.D./World Geography, World History after 1500 A.D./World Geography, Virginia/United States History, and Virginia/United States Government		
Health and Physical Education	2	
Foreign Language (3 years of one language or 2 years each of two languages, 2 + 2 option)	3 (or 4)	
Electives (depending on language option)▲	2 (or 1)	
Fine or Practical Arts	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24 Credits</b>	<b>9 Credits</b>

▲ Students have the option to complete a sequence of elective classes leading to completion of a Career and Technical Education program.

~ Student selected tests for verified credit

NOTE: In SOL courses, students are required to take an SOL test.

**Sample Advanced Studies Diploma Four-Year Plan**

Class	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
1	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
2	World History to 1500 AD/World Geog	World History from 1500 AD/World Geog	VA/US History	VA/US Gov't
3	Earth Science	Biology	Chemistry	Upper Lvl Science
4	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Upper Lvl Math
5	Health and PE 9	Health and PE 10	Fine/Practical Arts	Required Elective
6	Foreign Language	Foreign Language	Foreign Language	Required Elective
7	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice
8	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)	Student Choice (Block)

## **Secondary Special Education Programs**

Stafford County Public Schools provide special education services through various service delivery models to identified students with disabilities. Students with disabilities are eligible for specialized instruction through their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Students pursuing a modified standard diploma may complete the required credits over a longer period of time than a traditional 4-year program. They are also required to participate in the SOL Assessment program for classes with an End-of-Course SOL.

<b>20-CREDIT MODIFIED STANDARD DIPLOMA</b> (For eligible students with an Individualized Education Plan)	
<b><u>Course Areas</u></b>	<b><u>Credits Earned</u></b>
English*	4
Math*	3
Appropriate courses will include content from Algebra, Geometry, Statistics, and Personal Finance	
Science*	2
Appropriate courses will include content from Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics	
History*	2
Appropriate courses will include Virginia/US History and Government, and Virginia/United States Government	
Health and Physical Education	2
Fine or Practical Arts	1
Electives	6
Course work selected will include a minimum of two Sequential electives	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20 Credits</b>
Beginning in school year 2000-2001, students must earn 20 units of credit and pass literacy and numeracy competency assessments.	
Students entering the 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in 2000-2001 and beyond must pass the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade English (Reading, Literature, and Research) and mathematics Standards Of Learning tests to meet the literacy and numeracy requirements. Students may substitute a higher-level Standards Of Learning test (i.e., end of course English (Reading), Algebra I, Algebra II, or Geometry) for the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade SOL tests in English (Reading, Literature and Research) and mathematics or other substitute tests approved by the board.	
* Instruction in these course areas will be specifically modified to meet the needs of eligible students.	

# Stafford County Public Schools

## Possible Sequences of Courses for Mathematics

- One High School credit is awarded for each course a student passes at the Algebra Part I level and above.
- A verified credit is earned when a student passes the Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II Standards Of Learning end of course test.

Grade Level	Initial placement based on promotion to grade 6.		Initial placement based on teacher recommendation, Fifth Grade SOL test in mathematics, and classroom performance.		Students must take a placement test in grade 5 for initial placement in this sequence.
Grade 6	* Sixth Grade Math		* Math 6 Extended		*Math 7 Extended
Grade 7	* Seventh Grade Math		* Math 7 Extended		* Advanced Algebra I
Grade 8	* Eighth Grade Math		* Advanced Algebra I		* Advanced Geometry
Grade 9	Algebra I Part 1	* Algebra I	* Advanced Geometry	* Geometry	* Advanced Algebra II
Grade 10	* Algebra I Part 2 or * Algebra I	* Geometry	* Advanced Algebra II	* Algebra II	Math Analysis with Trigonometry
Grade 11	* Geometry Or * Geometry with Applications	* Alg. II	Math Analysis with Trigonometry	Algebra III with Trigonometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dual Enrollment Calculus<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Advanced Placement Calculus<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>
Grade 12	* Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alg III with Trig</li> <li>• Prob Stat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dual Enrollment Calculus<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Advanced Placement Calculus<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• Advanced Placement Statistics<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dual Enrollment Calculus<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Probability and Statistics with Discrete Topics</li> <li>• Advanced Placement Statistics<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probability and Statistics with Discrete Topics</li> <li>• Advanced Placement Statistics<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>

1. All courses with a (\*) have a Virginia Standards Of Learning test
2. Math 8 End of Course SOL Test
3. College level course with concurrent enrollment at Germanna Community College
4. College level course and students will take the national Advanced Placement Test to qualify for college credit



The Commonwealth Governor's School provides highly motivated students with a challenging, interdisciplinary program in English, science, mathematics, and social studies. Based on a school-within-a-school model, this half-day program utilizes interactive audiovisual technology, field trips, and team teaching to create a regional community of learners. Depending on their attendance zones, students who are accepted attend one of three sites: North Stafford, Stafford, or Colonial Forge High Schools.

Students wishing to apply should contact their school's guidance counselors or gifted education resource teachers. The applications for the Commonwealth Governor's School are due in February, and students are notified of their status in April.

Below is the CGS Program of Study:

	CGS Courses			
	<u><a href="#">Ninth Grade</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Tenth Grade</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Eleventh Grade</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Twelfth Grade</a></u>
<u><a href="#">English</a></u>	Honors English 9	Honors English 10	AP English Language & Composition *	AP English Literature & Composition *
<u><a href="#">Mathematics</a></u>	Honors Algebra II	Honors Math Analysis with Discrete Topics or Honors Geometry with Trigonometry	AP Calculus BC * or Honors Math Analysis with Discrete Topics	AP Statistics * or AP Calculus BC *
<u><a href="#">Science</a></u>	Honors Earth Science with Environmental Topics	AP Biology * with Environmental Emphasis	Dual Enrollment Chemistry with AP Environmental Science *	AP Physics B *
<u><a href="#">Social Studies</a></u>	AP European History *	AP US Government*	AP U.S. History *	AP Human Geography *

- **Weighted Classes**

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Course #	Course	High School Credit	Grades	Background	Page
<b><u>English</u></b>					
1109	Grade 6 English/Language Arts	0	6		7
1110	Grade 7 English/Language Arts	0	7		7
1120	Grade 8 English/Language Arts	0	8		7
<b><u>History</u></b>					
2354	Grade 6 United States History: 1877 to the present	0	6		7
2357	Grade 7 Civics and Economics	0	7		7
2359	Grade 8 World Geography	0	8		7
<b><u>Mathematics</u></b>					
3110	Grade 6 Mathematics	0	6	Teacher Recommendation	8
3110A	Math 6 Extended	0	6	Pass Grade 5 Math SOL and Teacher Recommendation	8
3111	Mathematics Grade 7	0	7	Teacher Recommendation	8
3111A	Math 7 Extended	0	6,7	Teacher Recommendation	8
3112	Grade 8 Mathematics	0	8	Teacher Recommendation	8
3130	Advanced Algebra I	1	7,8	Successful completion of Middle School Math II and Pass the Grade 8 Math SOL test	9
3143	Advanced Geometry	1	8	Successful completion of Advanced Algebra I and Teacher Recommendation	9
<b><u>Science</u></b>					
4105	Grade 6 Science	0	6		9
4115	Grade 7 Life Science	0	7		9
4125	Grade 8 Physical Science	0	8		9
<b><u>Academic Enrichment Opportunities</u></b>					
3110R	Grade 6 Algebra Readiness	0	6	Teacher Recommendation	10
3111R	Grade 7 Algebra Readiness	0	7	Teacher Recommendation	10
3112R	Grade 8 Algebra Readiness	0	8	Teacher Recommendation	10
3110E	Grade 6 Mathematics Enrichment	0	6	Teacher Recommendation	10
3111E	Grade 7 Mathematics Enrichment	0	7	Teacher Recommendation	10
3112E	Grade 8 Mathematics Enrichment	0	8	Teacher Recommendation	10
1106	Grade 6 Reading Enrichment	0	6	Teacher Recommendation	10
1107	Grade 7 Reading Enrichment	0	7	Teacher Recommendation	10
1120E	Grade 8 Reading Enrichment	0	8	Teacher Recommendation	10
<b><u>Health &amp; Physical Education</u></b>					
7110	Grade 6 Physical Education	0	6		10
7120	Grade 7 Physical Education	0	7		10
7200	Grade 8 Physical Education	0	8		11
<b><u>Foreign Language</u></b>					
5110	French Level I	1	8	C+ or better in English/Language Arts and Teacher Recommendation	11
5210	German Level I	1	8	C+ or better in English/Language Arts and Teacher Recommendation	11
5310	Latin I	1	8	C+ or better in English/Language Arts and Teacher Recommendation	11
5510	Spanish Level I	1	8	C+ or better in English/Language Arts and Teacher Recommendation	11
<b><u>Fine Arts</u></b>					
9103	Art Grade 6	0	6		11
9105	Art Grade 7	0	7	Art 6 or Teacher Recommendation	12
9106	Art Grade 8	0	8	Art 7 or Teacher Recommendation	12
9105G	Graphic Art Grade 7	0	7		12
9106G	Graphic Art Grade 8	0	8		12

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Course #	Course	High School Credit	Grades	Background	Page
<b>Performing Arts</b>					
9230	Band Grade 6	0	6		12
9231	Band Grade 7	0	7	Grade 6 Band or Teacher Recommendation	12
9232	Band Grade 8	0	8	Band Grade 7 or Teacher Recommendation	12
9269	Chorus Grade 6	0	6		13
9270	Chorus Grade 7	0	7	Chorus Grade 6 or Teacher Recommendation	13
9213	Chorus Grade 8	0	8	Chorus Grade 7 or Teacher Recommendation	13
9255	Piano Keyboarding	0	7,8		13
9235	Strings Grade 6	0	6		13
9236	Strings Grade 7	0	7	Strings 6 or Teacher Recommendation	13
9240	Strings Grade 8	0	8	Strings 7 or Teacher Recommendation	13
0066	Drama Grade 6 (Local #)	0	6		14
1390	Drama Grade 7	0	7	Drama Grade 6 or Teacher Recommendation	14
1395	Drama Grade 8	0	8	Drama Grade 7 or Teacher Recommendation	14
<b>Career and Technical Education</b>					
<b>Computer Exploration</b>					
6151	Computer Keyboarding 8	.5	8		14
0121	Computer Studies Grade 6 (Local #)	0	6		14
0122	Computer Solutions Grade 7 (Local #)	0	7		14
<b>Technology Education</b>					
8481 6 or 9-Weeks	Introduction to Technology Grade 6	0	6		14
8485 9 or 12-Weeks	Inventions and Innovations Grade 7	0	7		14
8464 18-Weeks	Inventions and Innovations Grade 7	0	7		14
8486 12-Weeks	Technological Systems Grade 8	0	8		15
8463 18-Weeks	Technological Systems Grade 8	0	8		15
8462 36-Weeks	Technological Systems Grade 8	0	8		15
<b>Family and Consumer Sciences</b>					
8204	Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 6	0	6		15
8206	Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 7	0	7		15
8208	Exploring Work and Family Roles Grade 8	0	8		15
<b>Other Choices</b>					
7112	Grade 6 Health and Wellness	0	6		15
1399	Public Speaking Grade 6	0	6		15
9801V	Video Production Grade 8	0	8	Teacher Recommendation	15